

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Docket Number:  
11443/158

Application Number  
10/676,046

Filing Date  
September 30, 2003

Examiner

Art Unit  
3739

Invention Title  
**SELF-CONTAINED STERILIZABLE SURGICAL  
SYSTEM**

Inventor(s)  
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Commissioner for Patents  
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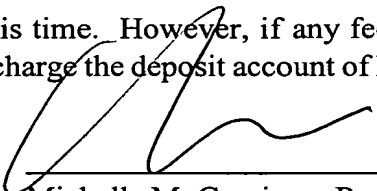
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By:   
Michelle M. Carniaux, Reg. No. 36,098

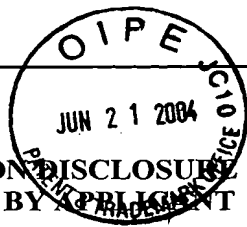
Date: 18 June 2004

- I. In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with the procedures of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609, attorneys for Applicant hereby bring the following references to the attention of the Examiner. The references are listed on the attached modified PTO Form No. 1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO Form No. 1449, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b).
- II. A copy of each patent, publication or other information listed on the modified PTO form 1449 is enclosed, unless otherwise indicated on the attached PTO-1449.
- III. No fee is believed to be required at this time. However, if any fees are required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the deposit account of Kenyon & Kenyon, Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Dated: 18 June 2004

By:   
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
11443/158

SERIAL NO.  
10/676,046

APPLICANT  
Whitman

FILING DATE  
September 30, 2003

GROUP  
3739

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT/ PUBLICATION NUMBER	PATENT/ PUBLICATION DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	3,256,875	June 21, 1996	Tsepelev et al.			
	3,858,577	January 7, 1975	Bass et al.			
	3,859,986	January 14, 1975	Okada et al.			
	4,085,756	April 25, 1978	Weaver			
	4,198,960	April 22, 1980	Utsugi			
	4,250,873	February 17, 1981	Bonnet			
	4,273,109	June 16, 1981	Enderby			
	4,273,111	June 16, 1981	Tsukaya			
	4,286,585	September 1, 1981	Ogawa			
	4,367,729	January 11, 1983	Ogiu			
	4,379,457	April 12, 1983	Gravener et al.			
	4,402,311	September 6, 1983	Hattori			
	4,445,892	May 1, 1984	Hussein et al.			
	4,448,188	May 15, 1984	Loeb			
	4,494,549	January 22, 1985	Namba et al.			
	4,499,895	February 19, 1985	Takayama			
	4,559,928	December 24, 1985	Takayama			
	4,593,679	June 10, 1986	Collins			
	4,672,961	June 16, 1987	Davies			
	4,674,515	June 23, 1987	Andou et al.			
	4,732,156	March 22, 1988	Nakamura			
	4,742,815	May 10, 1988	Ninan et al.			
	4,756,309	July 12, 1988	Sachse et al.			
	4,760,840	August 2, 1988	Fournier, Jr. et al.			
	4,815,469	March 28, 1989	Cohen et al.			
	4,819,632	April 11, 1989	Davies			
	4,890,602	January 2, 1990	Hake			
	4,893,613	January 16, 1990	Hake			
	4,928,699	May 29, 1990	Sasai			
	4,930,494	June 5, 1990	Takehana et al.			
	4,941,454	July 17, 1990	Wood et al.			
	4,955,882	September 11, 1990	Hakky			
	4,976,710	December 11, 1990	Mackin			

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT/ PUBLICATION NUMBER	PATENT/ PUBLICATION DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE*
	4,982,726	January 8, 1991	Taira			
	4,994,060	February 19, 1991	Rink et al.			
	5,133,713	July 28, 1992	Huang et al.			
	5,197,649	March 30, 1993	Bessler et al.			
	5,201,325	April 13, 1993	McEwen et al.			
	5,217,003	June 8, 1993	Wilk			
	5,251,613	October 12, 1993	Adair			
	5,258,008	November 2, 1993	Wilk			
	5,305,121	April 19, 1994	Moll			
	5,330,486	July 19, 1994	Wilk			
	5,333,772	August 2, 1994	Rothfuss et al.			
	5,354,266	October 11, 1994	Snoke			
	5,368,015	November 29, 1994	Wilk			
	5,383,880	January 24, 1995	Hooven			
	5,395,030	March 7, 1995	Kuramoto et al.			
	5,411,508	May 2, 1995	Bessler et al.			
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	5,460,182	October 24, 1995	Goodman et al.			
	5,496,269	March 5, 1996	Snoke			
	5,531,687	July 2, 1996	Snoke et al.			
	5,540,711	July 30, 1996	Kieturakis et al.			
	5,603,688	February 18, 1997	Upsher			
	5,604,531	February 18, 1997	Iddan et al.			
	5,609,560	March 11, 1997	Ichikawa et al.			
	5,630,782	May 20, 1997	Adair			
	5,653,677	August 5, 1997	Okada et al.			
	5,667,473	September 16, 1997	Finn et al.			
	5,667,478	September 16, 1997	McFarcin et al.			
	5,667,517	September 6, 1997	Hooven			
	5,797,835	August 25, 1998	Green			
	5,797,944	August 25, 1998	Nobles et al.			
	5,815,640	September 29, 1998	Wang et al.			
	5,855,583	January 5, 1999	Wang et al.			
	5,857,996	January 12, 1999	Snoke			
	5,865,728	February 2, 1999	Moll et al.			
	5,868,760	February 9, 1999	McGuckin, Jr.			
	5,878,193	March 2, 1999	Wang et al.			
	5,882,331	March 16, 1999	Sasaki			

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT/ PUBLICATION NUMBER	PATENT/ PUBLICATION DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE*
	5,907,664	May 25, 1999	Wang et al.			
	5,920,390	July 6, 1999	Farahi et al.			
	5,941,818	August 24, 1999	Hori et al.			
	5,954,634	September 21, 1999	Igarashi			
	5,954,642	September 21, 1999	Johnson et al.			
	5,989,184	November 23, 1999	Blair			
	5,993,378	November 30, 1999	Lemelson			
	5,995,645	November 30, 1999	Soenksen et al.			
	6,015,969	January 18, 2000	Nathel et al.			
	6,063,095	May 16, 2000	Wang et al.			
	6,066,090	May 23, 2000	Yoon			
	6,068,627	May 30, 2000	Orzulak et al.			
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	6,074,402	June 13, 2000	Peifer et al.			
	6,099,466	August 8, 2000	Sano et al.			
	6,124,597	September 26, 2000	Shehada et al.			
	6,126,591	October 3, 2000	McGarry et al.			
	6,134,003	October 17, 2000	Tearney et al.			
	6,142,930	November 7, 2000	Ito et al.			
	6,163,378	December 19, 2000	Khoury			
	6,208,749	March 27, 2001	Gutkowicz-Krusin et al.			
	6,208,887	March 27, 2001	Clarke			
	6,211,904	April 3, 2001	Adair et al.			
	6,215,550	April 10, 2001	Baer et al.			
	6,224,227	May 1, 2001	Klootz			
	6,236,502	May 22, 2001	Kitajima			
	6,238,386	May 29, 2001	Miller et al.			
	6,240,305	May 29, 2001	Tsuchiya			
	6,244,809	June 12, 2001	Wang et al.			
	6,245,058	June 12, 2001	Suzuki			
	6,251,101	June 26, 2001	Glockler			
	6,263,227	July 17, 2001	Boggett et al.			
	6,319,199	November 20, 2001	Sheehan et al.			
	6,331,181	December 18, 2001	Tierney et al.			
	6,364,888	April 2, 2002	Niemeyer et al.			
	6,398,726	June 4, 2002	Ramans et al.			
	6,442,432	August 27, 2002	Lee			
	6,443,973	September 3, 2002	Whitman			
	6,488,197	December 3, 2002	Whitman			

EXAMINER INITIAL	PATENT/ PUBLICATION NUMBER	PATENT/ PUBLICATION DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	6,491,201	December 10, 2002	Whitman			
	6,505,768	January 14, 2003	Whitman			
	6,517,565	February 11, 2003	Whitman et al.			
	6,533,157	March 18, 2003	Whitman			
	2001/0031975	October 18, 2001	Whitman et al.			
	2002/0032451	March 14, 2002	Tierney et al.			
	2002/0032452	March 14, 2002	Tierney et al.			
	2002/0042620	April 11, 2002	Julian et al.			
	2002/0049454	April 25, 2002	Whitman et al.			
	2002/0055795	May 9, 2002	Niemeyer et al.			
	2002/0159529	October 31, 2002	Wang et al.			
	2002/0165444	November 7, 2002	Whitman			

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	WO 82/03545	October 28, 1982	PCT				
	WO 83/00992	March 31, 1983	PCT				
	WO 92/16141	October 1, 1992	PCT				
	WO 98/32380	July 30, 1998	PCT				
	WO 99/30610	June 24, 1999	PCT				
	WO 99/32028	July 1, 1999	PCT				
	WO 00/22975	April 27, 2000	PCT				
	WO 00/76391	December 21, 2000	PCT				
	WO 01/10291	February 15, 2001	PCT				
	WO 01/35813	May 25, 2001	PCT				
	WO 01/62163	August 30, 2001	PCT				
	WO 02/55126	June 24, 1999	PCT				
	WO 03/77769	September 25, 2003	PCT				
	42 13 426	October 29, 1992	DE				
	0 667 115	August 16, 1995	EP				
	2 291 980	February 7, 1996	GB				
	59 223 079	December 14, 1984	JP				

#### OTHER DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.	
	New York Magazine, June 10, 2002 The Best Doctors in New York, p. 80	
EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED	
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.		

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